



No. 53

WORLD'S LARGEST SELLING  
COMIC MAGAZINE!



OCT.

# ACTION

# COMICS

10¢







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## GOOD BOOKS WORTH READING

reviewed by JOSETTE FRANK, staff advisor

Child Study Association of America

## CASH PRIZES FOR YOUR BOOK REVIEWS!

Boys and girls! Would you like to see your own book reviews printed on this page? Would you like to win cash prizes? Here's your chance!

The list of books below has been suggested by Mrs. Grace E. Cartmell, Supt. of Work with Children, of the Queensboro Public Library. Young people in her library have read them and liked them. Get one of these books from your library, send me a review of it in less than 200 words. The winning review will appear in this magazine, and the writer will receive a \$5.00 prize. You can win!

Send your review to me in care of this magazine, 480 Lexington Ave., N. Y. C. Print your name and address plainly.

JOSETTE FRANK

|                                     |                      |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Young Mac of Fort Vancouver.....    | By Mary Jane Carr    |
| Black Stallion.....                 | By Walter Farley     |
| Jesse and the Sleigh Dog.....       | By West Lathrop      |
| Citadel of a Hundred Stairways..... | By Alida Malkus      |
| Black Fire.....                     | By Corvella Newcomb  |
| Way Down Cellar.....                | By Phil Stong        |
| Flang, the Moro Chieftain.....      | By Florence Stuart   |
| Happy Landings.....                 | By Leonard M. Weber  |
| Haven for the Brave.....            | By Elizabeth Yates   |
| The Last of the Gouchos.....        | By Thomas Williamson |

Here is the winning review sent in by Lois Glaze, of Klamath Falls, Oregon. Lois has received her check for \$5.00.

### SHATTUCK CADET

by R. J. Chute

The feelings between Nick Stewart and Paul Norris were none too friendly when they started their senior year at Shattuck Military School, mainly because Nick's favorite idea was that rigid discipline was an important factor in one's training, while Paul's opinion of discipline was that it was so much bother.

The two cadets managed to conceal their feelings well enough until the big football game of the year . . . the game with the mighty Culver.

A lot of trouble might have been avoided if the star player, Paul Norris, hadn't tried to sneak into his room with a lot of forbidden sweets. He did try, however, and Nick caught him. Nick did not want to report Paul, but to him military duty came first. As a result, Paul was put off the team for disobeying the coach's training rules, and Nick took his place on the field.

It was not so much the fact that Nick was playing instead of Paul, but a rumor that Nick had framed him in order to play in his place, that really started the feud between the two senior cadets.

How it finally turns out, and also the whimsical humor interwoven throughout the story, makes very interesting reading.

Try to get this book at your library.

## SUPERMAN'S SECRET MESSAGE

(Code Mercury No. 1)

J OFFE BNFSJDB BNFSJDB OFFET ZPV  
EP ZPVS CJU!

# SUPERMAN

JERRY SIEGEL  
and  
JOE SHUSTER

HAS IT EVER OCCURRED TO YOU HOW ESSENTIAL LIGHT IS TO HUMAN EXISTENCE? WITHOUT IT, WE WOULD ALL BE SIGHTLESS...A WORLD OF THE BLIND.

"THE NIGHT OWL", SUPER-CRIMINAL, REALIZED THE FULL POTENTIALITIES FOR CRIME IN HIS CONTROL OVER LIGHT AND DARKNESS. AND WHEN HE PUT HIS FIENDISH PLANS INTO EFFECT, BLACK MADNESS STALKED THE STREETS OF METROPOLIS.

ONLY ONE MAN IN THE ENTIRE WORLD WAS CAPABLE OF COPING WITH THIS RENEGADE SCIENTIST. READ HOW SUPERMAN, TWO-FISTED FIGHTING MAN OF TOMORROW, SCORES A SHINING VICTORY OVER—"THE MAN WHO PUT OUT THE SUN!"





A JANGLING ALARM-CLOCK HERALDS THE DAWN OF A NEW DAY. IN HER APARTMENT, LOIS LANE SITS ERECT IN BED AS HER CLOCK RINGS DEAFENINGLY...

AM I STILL ASLEEP?  
IT'S DARK--  
I CAN'T SEE!

RRRR  
RING!

THAT INFERNAL CLOCK! IT MUST HAVE GONE OFF AT THE WRONG TIME. I'LL DIAL THE TELEPHONE COMPANY FOR THE CORRECT TIME.

AT THE SOUND OF THE NOTE, THE TIME WILL BE--  
SEVEN-THIRTY...  
BONG!

SEVEN-THIRTY! THEN--WHY IS IT GO PITCH BLACK?

DONNING HER GARMENTS IN THE DARK, LOIS GROPE OUT INTO THE STREET...

AUTOS COLLIDING--YET I CAN'T SEE THEM....

CRASH!

SHOTS!  
GUN  
SHOTS!!

BANG!  
BANG!

INVISIBLE FINGERS THRUST LOIS ACIDE. AS SHE TOPPLES, SHE GRASPS FOR SUPPORT... HER FINGERS CLOSE ABOUT SOMEONE'S HAND, SNATCH SOMETHING...

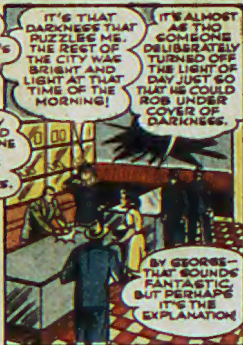
WHAT IS THIS???

ABRUPTLY, AS SHE STRUGGLES ERECT, BROAD DAYLIGHT SPRINGS UNEXPECTEDLY INTO BEING...

THE SUDDEN LIGHT--  
BLINDING ME!!

BUT AS LOIS EIGHTS THE OBJECTS CLUTCHED IN HER HAND, SHE GETS THE GREATEST SHOCK OF ALL--

G-GEMS...  
REAL HONEST-  
TO-GOODNESS  
GEMS!!!







LOOK--  
A WHOLE CITY  
BLOCK--IN INKY  
BLACKNESS!

I CAN'T  
BELIEVE  
MY EYES!

BUT CLARK DISCOVERS  
THAT HIS SUPER-SENSORY  
VISION CAN PIERCE THE  
UTTER BLACKNESS  
THAT LIES AHEAD...

FOR IN THE ARTIFICIAL BLACKNESS,  
CLARK'S AMAZING VISION SIGHTS  
GOGGLED THUGS, UNAFFECTED BY  
THE DARKNESS, ROBBING A BANK...

INTO THE MAN-MADE  
NIGHT SPEEDS THE RADIO  
CAR, SIREN SCREAMING...

("LOIS CERTAINLY  
SUGGESTED THE  
MOTIVE!")



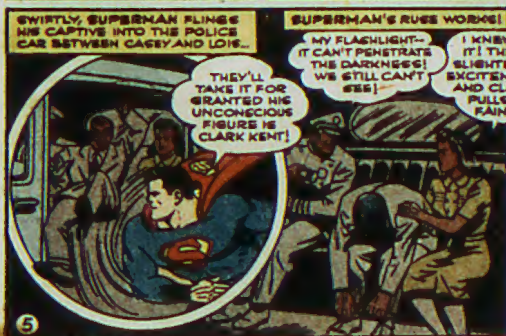
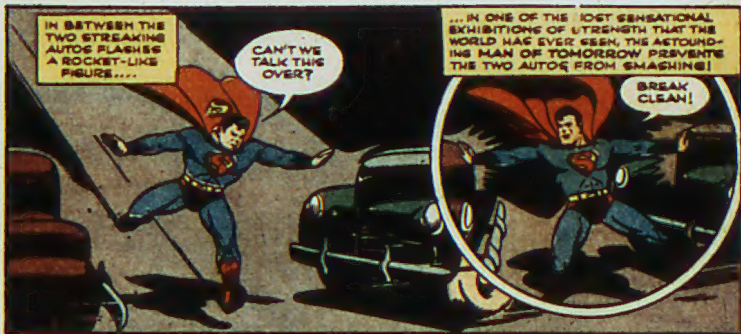
...AND AS IT PENETRATES  
THE DARK SHROUD, CLARK'S  
PIERCING VISION ENABLES  
HIM TO SIGHT AN IMPENDING  
COLLISION....



OUT THE POLICE  
CAR'S WINDOW  
FLASHES CLARK,  
WHIPPING INTO  
HIS SUPERMAN  
COSTUME AS HE  
LEAPS...

("BOTH DRIVERS  
CAN'T SEE A THING!  
THIS CALLS FOR  
SPEEDY ACTION!")













BUT BEFORE THE MURDEROUS TRIGGER-FINGER CAN THREATEN!



THAT'LL PUT HIM SAFELY BACK INTO DREAMLAND FOR A WHILE! NOW TO TAKE CARE OF HIS PALE IN THAT ESCAPING CAR!



BUT THAT INSTANT--

BROAD DAYLIGHT!



THIS CALLS FOR SPEED! PLUS HE'S GOT TO GET BACK INTO THAT CAR BEFORE THEY NOTICE THE THUG IN THERE IS NOT CLARK KENT!

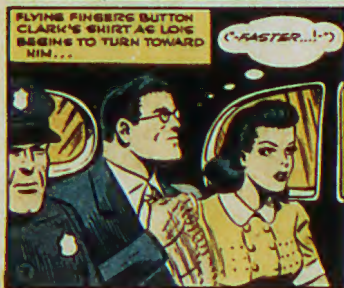


THE POLICE-CAR IS PULLED FROM BETWEEN THE TWO WALLS...

THE HOODLUM'S FIGURE IS YANKED OUT OF THE AUTO...



--AND CLARK KENT WHIZZES INTO HIS PLACE-- ALL IN THE AMAZING SPACE OF A FRACTION OF AN INSTANT!



FLYING FINGERS BUTTON CLARK'S SHIRT AS LOVE BEGINS TO TURN TOWARD HIM...

("FASTER...!")



CLARK BARELY MANAGES TO TUG HIS TIE INTO PLACE BEFORE THE GIRL REPORTER'S EYES FALL UPON HIM...

SO YOU'VE COME OUT OF YOUR FAINT AT LAST!

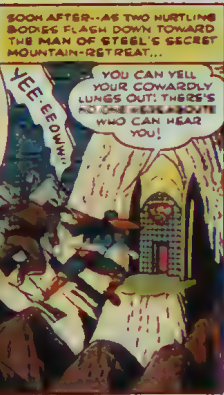
THERE'S BEEN A HOLD-UP!

THE EXCITEMENT --TOO MUCH FOR ME!













BUT AS THE DISGUISED SUPERMAN  
NEARS THE POLICE STATION...



SUPERMAN BURROWS  
HIS WAY BACK INTO THE  
CELL AND JUST IN TIME.

YOU'RE  
COMING  
WITH US,  
KELLY!

PUT ON  
THESE  
GOGGLES  
AND YOU'LL  
SEE  
CLEARLY!



MEANWHILE--LOVE, TOO, HAD ANTICIPATED THE  
JAILBREAK. NOW, WEARING THE GOGGLES  
SHE HAD SEIZED, SHE HURRIES TO THE  
GANGSTER CAR, AND CLIMBS INTO THE  
TRUNK COMPARTMENT WITH THE AID OF A  
SKELETON KEY...



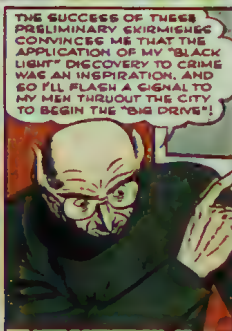
LATER, THE  
GANGSTER-CAR  
DRAWS UP BEFORE  
A GREAT CAVE...

THE  
BOSS IN  
THERE?

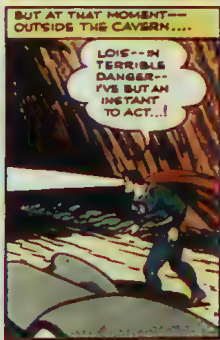
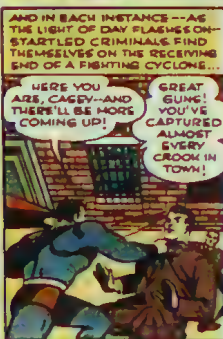
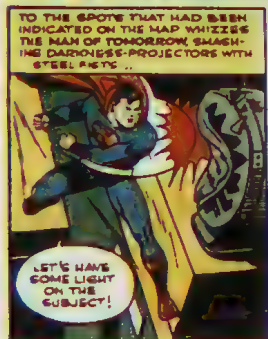
OF  
COURSE  
HE IS!

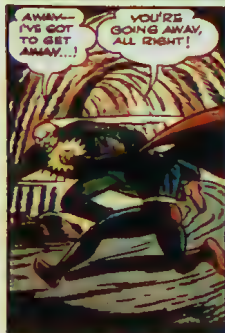
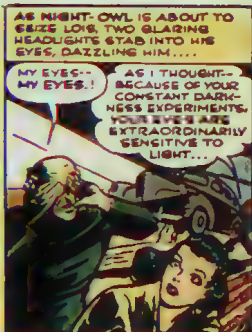
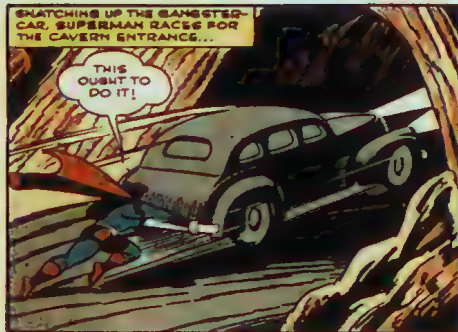
WALK FASTER.  
THE NIGHT-OWL  
DOESN'T LIKE  
TO BE KEPT  
WAITING!











**MAN OF STEEL**  
BECOMES  
**MAN OF THE MOVIES!**  
YOU'VE THRILLED TO

**SUPERMAN**

IN PARAMOUNT'S ANIMATED  
CARTOONS IN TECHNICOLOR.  
.... NOW, DON'T MISS THE  
THRILLINGLY DIFFERENT  
ADVENTURE ENTITLED  
"SUPERMAN, MATINEE IDOL"  
IN **SUPERMAN # 19**  
ON SALE SEPT. 4TH  
AT STANDS EVERYWHERE!





# SUPERMEN OF AMERICA

**GREETINGS, members.** This month I would like to talk about Brig. General James H. Doolittle, man of two wars. Danger has always been his business—and pleasure! In twenty-six years of speed flying, he has pulled himself out of more perilous aerial scrapes than almost any other American airman!

The man who has been keeping 'em flying for more than two decades began his aviation career as a flying cadet for the United States Army in 1917, instructing war pilots in aerial gunnery. In 1922, he shattered aviation records by zooming across the continent like a meteor, spanning the distance between Palmdale Beach, Florida and San Diego, California, in 22 hours and thirty minutes—the first coast-to-coast flight in less than 24 hours! That won for him the coveted Distinguished Flying Cross!

And it's been non-stop for Jimmy Doolittle's list of winged achievements ever since! In 1929 he conquered the fog, taking off in a blind cockpit flying 15 miles and returning to a three-point landing! This daring hop won him the Harmon Trophy for the year's outstanding contribution to aviation!

The years went by and with them Doolittle passed more milestones on his thrilling sky trail. In 1931, this amazing pilot who must have been born with wings broke all existing speed records by bulleting his own ship across the country at an average speed of 225 miles an hour!

In 1932, at the Cleveland Air Races, he set a new speed mark for land planes to win the Thompson Trophy race! In the course of testing seaplanes

for the Navy, he won the Schneider Trophy Race award!

But Doolittle's flying life hasn't been all cup conquests and trophy triumph! Death always has been an invisible companion in his cockpit; trouble always has hung on to his ship's tail. There is the incident in Chile in which he broke both ankles in an air crash, but grimly proceeded to climb into another plane, with the aid of crutches, and go ahead with an exhibition! He was in the hospital for a year after that, left it to do the Army's first outside loop!

He joined the Caterpillar Club by leaping from a wrecked plane doing better than 250. In 1931, at St. Louis, Ill., an alleron whipped off while he was pressing his plane at 235 miles an hour. A bare 100 feet off the ground, he zoomed upward to avoid crashing into spectators and bailed out at 300 feet!

These are only some of the highlights in the life of the hero who led the attack on Hirohito's domain. The man who led the spectacular bombing raid on Japan has done quite a bit, even though, ironically, his name is Doolittle! He is a modest man, this forty-five year old flier, tough, bald, and good-humored. Once, when he learned that the Mayor of New York planned to

accord him an official reception, with a parade in his honor, he tried to avoid the celebration.

The details of the historic first bombardment of Japan, personally directed by Doolittle, are now known to every American. He assigned each of the bombardiers in his squadron specific targets, and the pilots carried out their duties with remarkable precision. Braving the fire of Japanese pursuit planes and anti-aircraft guns, Doolittle and his aces sped low over Tokyo, bombed battleships, aircraft factories, and other industrial centers, converting them into flaming pyres! They dropped enough eggs on Japan to make a Yokohama omelette.

For his conspicuous leadership in directing this telling blow at one of the Axis capitals, President Franklin D. Roosevelt personally awarded this Superman of the U. S. Army the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Yes Yankee Doolittle has certainly gone to town!

Sincerely,

CLARK KENT

SUPERMAN,  
c/o ACTION COMICS,  
480 LEXINGTON AVENUE, N. Y. C.

Dear Superman:

Please enroll me as a Member of the SUPERMAN of AMERICA. I enclose 10c to cover cost of mailing. It is understood that I am to receive my Membership Certificate, Button and Superman Code.

NAME

AGE

STREET ADDRESS

CITY AND STATE

OCT.

# SUPERMEN OF THE U.S. ARMY

## "BANKER"

DOOLITTLE'S AIR FEATS ARE AMAZING! HE MADE ONE OF THE FIRST "BLIND" FLIGHTS, AND WAS AWARDED THE HARMON TROPHY IN 1930, FOR HIS EXPERIMENTAL FLIGHTS! HE IS A DOCTOR OF SCIENCE IN AIRCRAFT ENGINEERING!

HE  
BLASTED  
TOKYO!

BRIG.  
GEN.  
"JIMMY"  
DOOLITTLE

## A FIGHTING MAN!

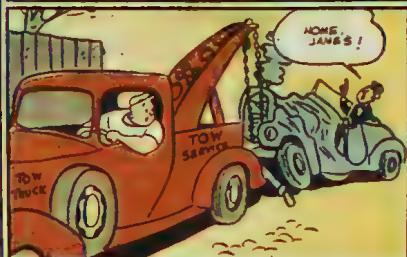
THE PILOT WHO BOMBED JAPAN WON THE HIGH SCHOOL BOXING CHAMPIONSHIP AS A YOUTH, AND PLANNED A PRIZE-FIGHTING CAREER, UNTIL HIS PARENTS OBJECTED!

## SPEED DEMON!

HE WON THE SCHNEIDER SPEED TROPHY IN 1925, SET A NEW TRANSCONTINENTAL SPEED MARK IN 1931 AND SET THE RECORD FOR LAND PLANES IN 1932 AT CLEVELAND!

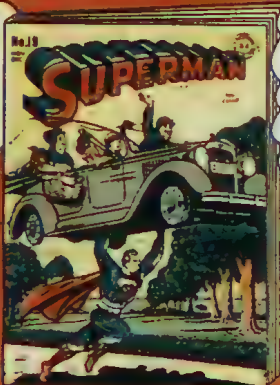


# GAGS



## BOY! IS CLARK KENT IN TROUBLE!!!

IT'S LIKE THIS-- LOIS MAKES CLARK TAKE HER TO SEE ONE OF THOSE SWELL **SUPERMAN** MOVIES THAT **PARAMOUNT** IS SHOWING ALL OVER THE COUNTRY--AND POOR CLARK IS AFRAID SHE'LL DISCOVER HIS IDENTITY AS THE MAN OF STEEL!



WHEW! WHAT CAN A FELLOW --- EVEN A **SUPERMAN** --- DO IN A SPOT LIKE THAT?? THE ANSWER IS IN **SUPERMAN No. 19** IN A RIP-ROARING, DIFFERENT SORT OF **SUPERMAN** STORY--- PLUS **THREE OTHER COMPLETE SUPERMAN YARNS!**



ON SALE SEPT. 4TH





MOONY STATE PRISON.  
WHERE TWO GUARDS  
INCURBS THEIR MOST  
NOTORIOUS PRISONER...

SO THEY'RE MOVING  
THE RAINBOW MAN  
TO SHARK TOOTH  
ISLAND!

IT'S GETTING DARK..  
HOW WILL YOU FIND  
YOUR WAY BACK?

YEAH...THEY CAUGHT HIM  
SIGNALING PALS ON THE  
OUTSIDE AND THINK HE WAS  
PLANNING ANOTHER ESCAPE!

THE RAINBOW MAN WHOSE CRIES IN  
COLOR HAVE BEEN PLANNED WITH THE  
CAES OF AN ARTIST... FACES A DREA  
FUTURE...

EASY! THE  
WAY IS  
MARKED BY  
SCARLET  
LIGHT BOO!

AS DARKNESS GATHERS...

HOW IRONIC THAT I, WHO  
HAVE LIVED FOR COLOR, SHOULD  
BE CONFINED TO BLACK-  
AND-WHITE STRIPES AND  
GREY WALLS!

CHEER UP AND  
WATCH THE  
PRETTY  
LIGHTS GO  
PAST!

LOOK OUT  
GOING TO  
RAIN US!

THE IDIOTS ARE  
IDIOTS THEY'RE  
MY FRIENDS...  
"DICTIONARY" AND  
"SHAKES" THE  
UNDERWORLD PORT!

THEY DID IT  
ON PURPOSE!

OF COURSE! THIS IS  
WHAT I SIGNALLED  
THEM TO DO WHEN YOU  
THOUGHT... CORRECTLY...  
THAT I WAS PLANNING TO  
ESCAPE!

THIS IS A  
PROFOUND PLEASURE.  
BOYS!

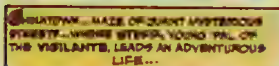
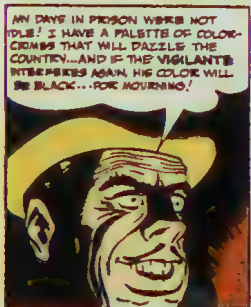
HAPPY DAYS  
ARE HERE  
AGAIN!  
WE'LL PAINT  
THE TOWN RED,  
RAINBOW MAN!

ARE YOU GOING  
TO LEAVE US  
TO DROWN LIKE  
KATS?

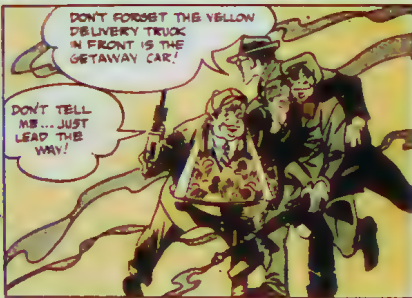
JUST FOLLOW THE PRETTY  
LIGHTS...ALTHOUGH I'M NOT  
SURE WHERE THEY'LL TAKE YOU  
SINCE MY FRIENDS CHANGED THEIR  
COURSE TO MAKE YOU MISS  
SHARK TOOTH ISLAND!

**AND SO**

ONCE AGAIN THE  
UNDERWORLD'S  
ARTIST ARCH-CRIMINAL...  
THE RAINBOW MAN...  
IS FREE TO WAGE A  
CIRING CAMPAIGN  
IN COLOR!

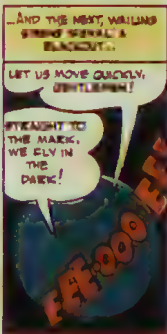
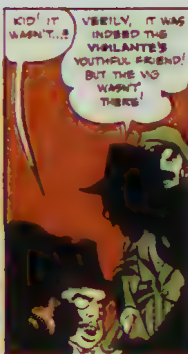




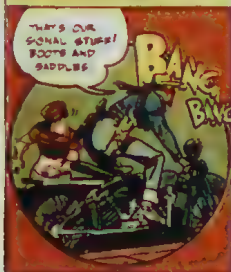








THE CRACKLE OF SHOTS BOMBS THROUGH THE STREETS AND REACHES EARS STRAINED FOR EXACTLY SUCH SOUNDS...



THE NEXT SECOND...

THERE THEY ARE! WE SHOOT US THE WAY OUT OF A STORE DOWN THE BLOCK.



WHEN THE VIGILANTE'S ARTER... LS!

GOOD! WE'LL BE ABLE TO FOLLOW BY OUR GLOW T... WE GET HIM WHERE HE WANT HIM!



VIG. WE'RE GONNA CRACK UP!

BETTER JUMP STUFF!





**TICK...TOCK TICK...TOCK**  
 LIKE STROKES OF DOOM,  
 THE RHYTHMIC BEAT OF  
 A HUGE CLOCK PENETRATES  
 THE STUNNED MINDS OF  
 THE PRISONERS.



WHAT? WHERE IS  
 VIG...ARE YOU  
 AROUND?

I THINK I'M  
 HANGING  
 AROUND HERE  
 SOMEWHERE!

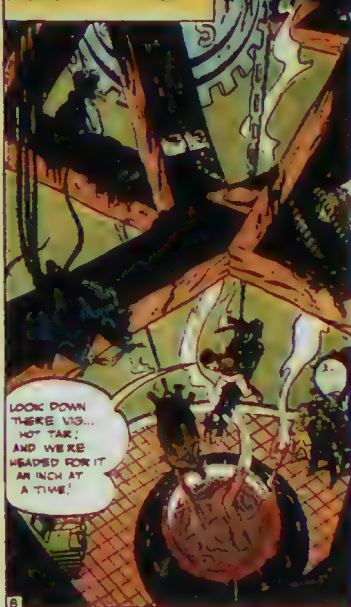


A MOOKING LAUGH ERIPS OUT...

THE FUTURE  
 LOOKS BLACK  
 FOR YOU, MY  
 FIGHTING FRIENDS!  
**I'LL MISS  
 YOU!**



**AND THE FULL CRUELTY OF  
 THE INSINUOUS RAINBOW MAN  
 BURSTS UPON THEM WITH THE  
 CRUSHING IMPACT OF DOOM...**



LOOK DOWN  
 THERE VIG...  
 NO! TAR!  
 AND WE'RE  
 HEADED FOR IT  
 AN INCH AT  
 A TIME!

AT ELEVEN O'CLOCK YOU'LL  
 BE A PAIR OF TAP-BABIES,  
 AND WE'LL BE PROCUKING IN  
 GREENERY AT A  
 OAKDEN PRITY!



MAYBE  
 I'LL MAKE  
 IT YOUR  
 GOING  
 AWAY  
 PRITY.  
 YET!

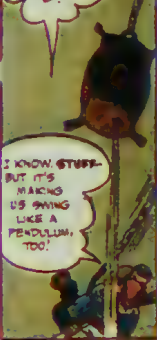
**TICK...TOCK...TICK...TOCK...**  
 BUT SUDDENLY THE  
 WHEEDED SOUND  
 MINGLES WITH THE NOISE  
 OF TEAKING CLOTH...



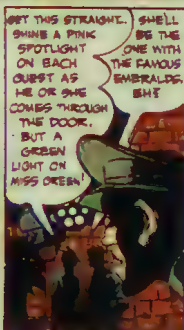
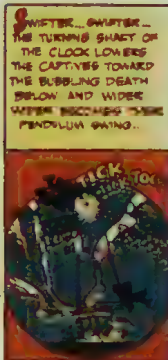
...HEY...WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

RIPPED THE SANDS  
 WITH MY SPURS. SHAKES  
 LITTLE FORM ABOUT THE  
 SANDS OF TIME GAVE  
 ME AN IDEA!

BUT THAT'S ONLY  
 MAKING US FALL  
 FASTER! THE  
 CLOCK IS  
 SPEEDING  
 UP!



I KNOW STUFF...  
 BUT IT'S  
 MAKING  
 US SWING  
 LIKE A  
 PENDULUM,  
 TOO!





MEANWHILE... AT THE THUGS' HIDEOUT,  
A SPEEDING PENDULUM BEATS OUT A  
LIFE-AND-DEATH RHYTHM.

WE'RE DROPPIN' FAST,  
VIG! AND IT LOOKS  
LIKE WE'RE GONNA  
BE IN THE GUP!

THERE'S ONLY ABOUT  
ONE CHANCE IN  
TWENTY THAT WE'LL  
DROP OUTSIDE THE  
EM!

WIIII-I-I-I!! IS  
ANYONE ASKING  
WHAT'S COOKIN',  
IT'S ME!

GRIT YOUR  
TEETH, FELLA...  
IT'LL ONLY  
LAST A  
SECOND!

ARE THESE ROPES COMIN'  
LOOSE OR  
AM I  
DREAMIN'?

YOU'RE WIDE  
AWAKE... AND  
STARTING RIGHT  
NOW, WE'RE  
GOING  
PLACES!

A WILD DASH  
THROUGH THE  
STREETS... AND  
A KID O' MAST  
SERVES AS A  
LADDER INTO  
A DARK SKY...

WANNA YOU  
KNOW WHAT  
YOU'RE DOIN',  
BUT THIS  
LOOKS LIKE  
A DEAD-END  
STREET  
TO ME!

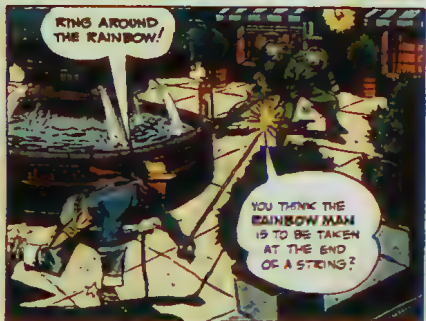
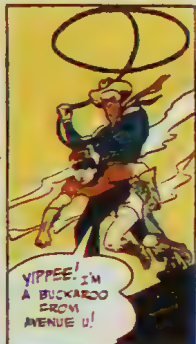
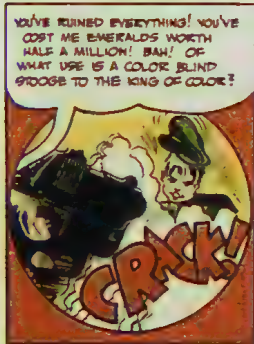
HELL'S-EVE, VIG! BUT I'D  
FEEL SAEER IF YOU'D  
BUILD A BRIDGE!

IN BARRERLDA OVERHUNG FORTHOUGH,  
THE AFTER-THEATRE SIGHTS BEGIN TO  
ARRIVE...

GOOD EVENING, MR. AND MRS. WINTER...  
IF YOU'LL JUST  
PASS THROUGH  
INTO THE  
GARDEN...

AND AS A PINK SPOTLIGHT FLASHES...

THERE'S TH' SPOTLIGHT...  
AN HERE I GO!

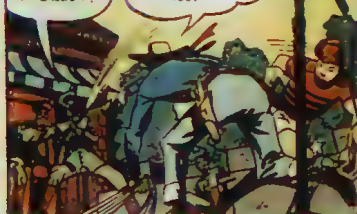




**RALLYING** THE CRIMINALS SEIZE A TANK OF POISONOUS PARS GREEN, USED FOR SPRAYING PLANTS...

SINCE MY ROBBERY IN GREEN FAILED, WHY NOT A COUPLE OF MURDERS IN GREEN?

YOU'LL BE SPRAYING YOURSELVES WITH LINIMENT WHEN I GET MY HANDS ON YOU!



BUT THEIR AIM IS SPOILED AS DRIZZLING RAINS OF LIGHT FLASH IN THEIR EYES...

HEY! THE SPOTLIGHT... THE BEATS SHINING IT IN MY EYES!



NASTY THINGS FOR YOUR CRANIUM, BIG TALKER!



A RED, RED ROSE... AND DOWN HE GOES!



HERE'S HIS LAST RAINBOW!

...AND A BOUQUET TO MATCH IT!



AND SO WHERE ONE ESCAPED FROM PRISON THREE RETURN...

INCARCERATION WILL BE A RELIEF!

IN JAIL I'LL HAPPILY ABIDE LONG AS THE VIG REMAINS OUTSIDE!

BUT THEN CAN'T KEEP A COLORFUL CHARACTER LIKE ME IN A DARK CELL FOR LONG!



AS GENERALDA GREENE'S PARTY GOES MERCELY ON...

NO, THANKS MISS GREENE... I'M A LONESOME COWBOY... BUT NOT THAT LONESOME!

PLEASE STAY FOR THE PARTY! MY SOCIETY FRIENDS WILL TREAT YOU ROYALLY!

ME, I'M NEEDED TO KEEP AN EYE ON THINGS!



**THE END**

OF THE RAINBOW MAN... WE WONDER...

**WE** HAVE A REAL BANG-UP GUESSING WAITING FOR YOU IN NEXT MONTH'S ACTION COMICS!

# ENERGY TO GET THERE!



Tell Morna to try this New Recipe... Deliciously different cookies are easy-to-make with Baby Ruth

- $\frac{1}{2}$  cup butter, or other shortening
- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup white sugar
- 1 egg
- $1\frac{1}{2}$  cups flour
- $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon soda
- $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon salt
- $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon vanilla
- 2 Curtiss 5c Baby Ruth Bars, cut in small pieces

Cream butter and sugar until smooth. Beat in egg. Stir in other ingredients. Chill and drop by half teaspoonful on greased cookie sheet. Bake in a moderately hot oven (375° F.) for 10-12 minutes. Makes 75 cookies.

Fun to make ☆ Fun to eat

SEND A BOX TO THE BOY IN CAMP!

*Rich in Dextrose*  
the sugar your body uses directly for  
**ENERGY**

## THE "JEEP" DEPENDS ON ENERGY!

These small-armored cars pack a mighty wallop of energy created from the fuel they burn—energy that has given the "Jeep" a reputation for "getting there!"

## YOUR ENERGY DEPENDS ON FOOD YOU EAT!

"Jeepers", your body needs energy too—to "get there"—energy from fuel that the human motor utilizes—food!

## BABY RUTH IS RICH IN FOOD-ENERGY!

A Curtiss Baby Ruth Candy Bar is rich in Dextrose, and other nourishing ingredients. It helps give you a quick "pick-up"! So enjoy Baby Ruth's delectable goodness... its tempting flavor. Treat yourself to a delicious, inexpensive Baby Ruth every day!

CURTISS CANDY COMPANY, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Jimmy:  
"Baby Ruth  
Candy Bars  
taste swell!"



FOR VICTORY  
BUY  
WAR SAVINGS  
BONDS AND  
STAMPS



# 3 ACES



WHEN ALL CHIPS ARE DOWN AND THE SECURITY OF A U.S. NAVY UNIT IN THE PACIFIC IS THE TEMPTING PRIZE, THE THREE ACES CALL THE LAST HAND BY HURLING A YANKEE MONKEY WRENCH INTO A CRAFTY JAPANESE SCHEME IN...WINOS OVER THE PACIFIC!

SUNSET IN THE PACIFIC... A JAPANESE PATROL BOMBER DISCOVERS THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER U.S.S. ROOSEVELT AND HER ESCORT WARSHIPS STEAMING TO ATTACK JAPANESE NAVAL BASES.

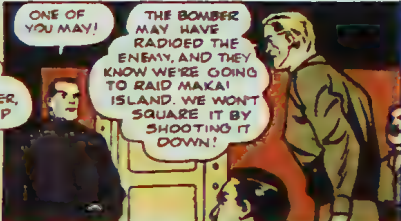
THE MISSION BECOMES DANGEROUS, AND THE ADMIRAL CALLS FIGHTING SQUADRON TEN TO THE ROOSEVELT'S FLIGHT QUARTERS.



GENTLEMEN, IF THAT PATROL BOMBER DOGS US ANY LONGER, THE ENEMY CAN KEEP TAG ON US. GET THAT BOMBER!

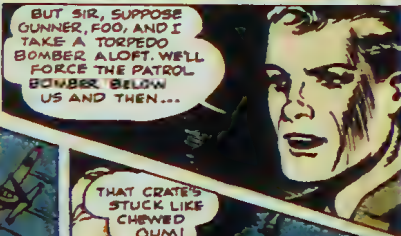
PERMISSION TO SPEAK, SIR!

ONE OF YOU MAY!

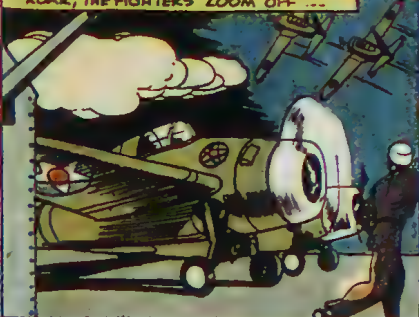


THE BOMBER MAY HAVE RADIOED THE ENEMY, AND THEY KNOW WE'RE GOING TO RAID MAKAI ISLAND. WE WON'T SQUARE IT BY SHOOTING IT DOWN!

BUT SIR, SUPPOSE GUNNER, FOO, AND I TAKE A TORPEDO BOMBER ALOFT. WE'LL FORCE THE PATROL BOMBER BELOW US AND THEN...

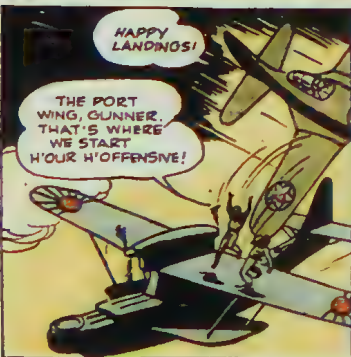


THE ADMIRAL APPROVES. WITH A MIGHTY ROAR, THE FIGHTERS ZOOM OFF...



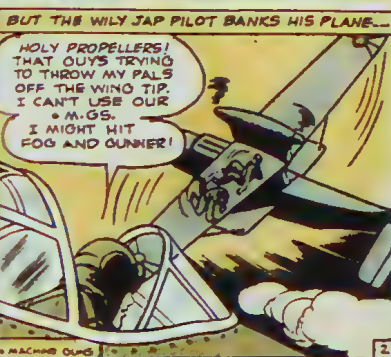
THAT CRATE'S STUCK LIKE CHEWED GUM!

OKAY. GET READY TO PAY AN UNSOCIAL VISIT TO THOSE BROWN MONKEYS!



HAPPY LANDINGS!

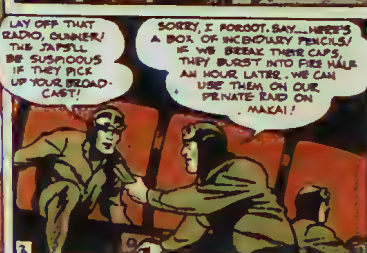
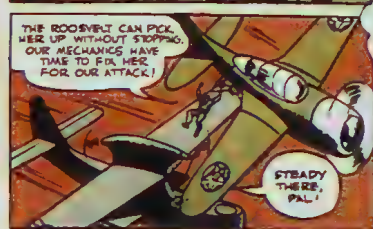
THE PORT WING, GUNNER. THAT'S WHERE WE START H'OUR H'OFFENSIVE!



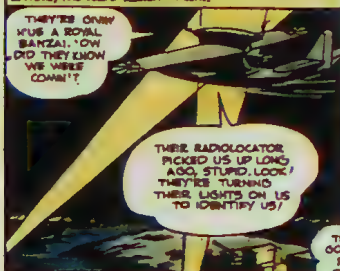
BUT THE WILY JAP PILOT BANKS HIS PLANE...

HOLY PROPELLERS! THAT GUYS TRYING TO THROW MY PALS OFF THE WING TIP. I CAN'T USE OUR M-GS. I MIGHT HIT FOG AND GUNNER!





ENVELOPED IN THE BICY CURTAIN OF NIGHT, HOURS LATER, THE ACP'S REACH MAKAI.



WOW! THEY'VE LIGHTED UP THE SEAPLANE RAMP. KEEP YOUR GOOGLES DOWN AND LEAVE THE TALKING TO ME!

YOU BET WE WILL!

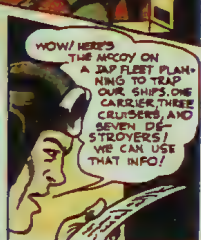


THEY'VE GOT SOME RADIO STATION!

SHUT UP! THEY'LL HEAR US. JUST KEEP DROPPING ENOUGH INCENDIARY PENCILS TO SET THE ISLAND ON FIRE!

DON'T LET THEM USE THEIR GUNS! THEY'LL BRING THEIR BROTHER RATS ON OUR NECKS!

AMERICANSU!





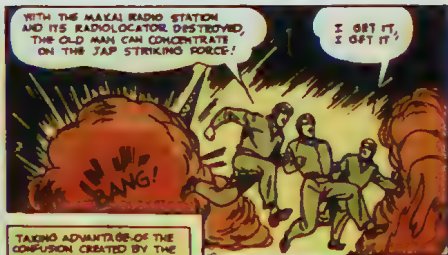
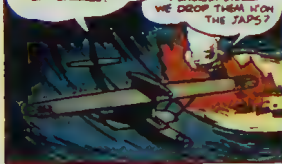


GIVE ME SOME MORE TNT STICKS, GUNNER. WE WERE TO DESTROY THIS RADIO-LOCATOR STATION, BUT THAT BOMBER SPOTTED US AND CALLED OUR PLAY!

LET'S GET GOING. T.N.T. MAKES M'UN-COMFORTABLE!

NOT YET. WE KNOW WHERE THE ENEMY FORCE IS AND WE'RE GOING TO MEET THEM. WE'LL GIVE THE JAP ADMIRAL A HEADACHE-FREE OF CHARGE!

WE'VE A FEW MORE M'INCENDIARY PENCILS. SHALL WE DROP THEM M'ON THE JAPS?



WITH THE MAJAI RADIO STATION AND ITS RADIOLOCATOR DESTROYED, THE OLD MAN CAN CONCENTRATE ON THE JAP STRIKING FORCE!

I GET IT, I GET IT!



WHAT A PICTURE! OUR DIVE BOMBERS COULDN'T HAVE DONE BETTER!

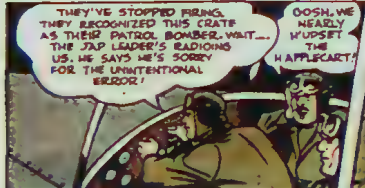
HOME, SWEET HOME, THE U.S.S. ROOSEVELT!



SUDDENLY, THE THREE ACES RUN SHACK INTO AN ENEMY PATROL.

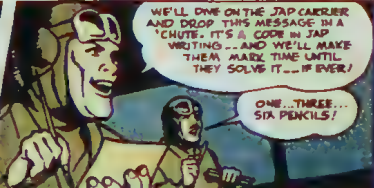
STAY AWAY FROM THE GUNS, GUNNER!

BUT THEY'RE FIRING INTO US!



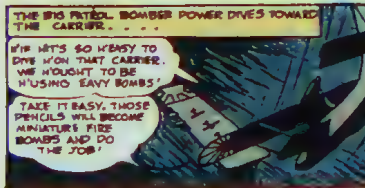
THEY'VE STOPPED FIRING. THEY RECOGNIZED THIS CRATE AS THEIR PATROL BOMBER. WAIT... THE JAP LEADER'S RADIOING US. HE SAYS HE'S SORRY FOR THE UNINTENTIONAL ERROR!

OOSH...WE NEARLY M'UPSET THE HAPPLECART!



WE'LL DIVE ON THE JAP CARRIER AND DROP THIS MESSAGE IN A CHUTE. IT'S A CODE IN JAP WRITING...AND WE'LL MAKE THEM MAKE TIME UNTIL THEY SOLVE IT...IF EVER!

ONE...THREE...SIX PENCILS!



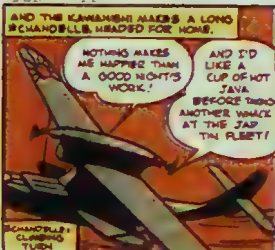
THE BIG PATROL BOMBER POWER DIVES TOWARD THE CARRIER...

M'UN MET'S SO KENSY TO DIVE M'ON THAT CARRIER. WE M'UGHT TO BE M'USING EASY BOMBS!

TAKE IT EASY, THOSE PENCILS WILL BECOME MINATURE FIRE BOMBS AND DO THE JOB!



THE SMALL 'CHUTE ATTRACTS THE JAPS WHILE M'INCENDIARY PENCILS DROP UNSEEN ON THE FLIGHT DECK.

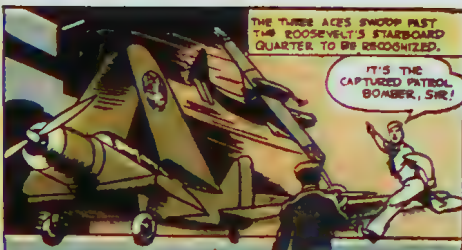


AND THE KAMIKAZE MAKES A LONG  
RECHARGE, HEADED FOR HOME.

NOTHING MAKES  
ME HAPPIER THAN  
A GOOD NIGHT'S  
WORK!

AND I'D  
LIKE A  
CUP OF HOT  
TAVA  
BEFORE TWO  
ANOTHER WHACK  
AT THE JAP  
TIN FLEET!

RECHARGE!  
CLOSING  
TWIN



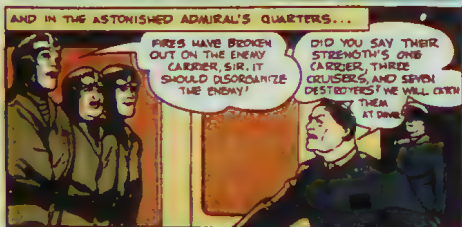
THE THREE ACES SWOOP PAST  
THE ROOSEVELT'S STARBOARD  
QUARTER TO BE RECOGNIZED.

IT'S THE  
CAPTURED PATROL  
BOMBER, SIR!



WHERE HAVE YOU FELLOWS  
BEEN ALL NIGHT... JOY-  
RIDING OVER THE PACIFIC?

WE WANT  
PERMISSION TO  
REPORT TO THE ADMIRAL,  
SIR!

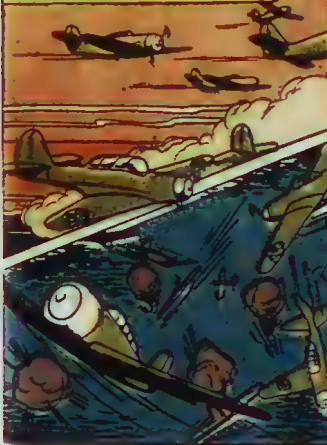


AND IN THE ASTONISHED ADMIRAL'S QUARTERS...

FIRE HAS BROKEN  
OUT ON THE ENEMY  
CARRIER, SIR. IT  
SHOULD DISORGANIZE  
THE ENEMY!

DID YOU SAY THEIR  
STRENGTH'S ONE  
CARRIER, THREE  
CRUISERS, AND SEVEN  
DESTROYERS? WE WILL OPEN  
UP THEM  
AT DAWN!

THE NEW DAY DAWNS...AND AS THE RED  
TROPICAL SUN RISES, THE ROOSEVELT'S  
BROOD WINGS TOWARD THE JAPANESE  
STRIKING FORCE.



THAT CARRIER'S  
DONE FOR!

OH BOY! THE  
HIGH PATROL RAN  
OUT OF GAS AND  
HAD TO LAND  
IN THE SEA!  
THEY'RE COLD  
MEAT FOR OUR  
BOMBERS!



THAT'S  
MAKING THOSE  
JAPS SLAP-  
HAPPY!

I BET THEY  
WISH THEY  
COULD FORGET  
PEARL  
HARBOR!

Contact! SOAR INTO THE STRATO-  
SPHERE NEXT MONTH WITH  
THE THREE ACES

Action Comics!

MR. AMERICA...

AS  
The

# AMERICOMMANDO

with  
FATMAN

by  
BERNARD  
BAILY

DIARY OF AMERICOMMANDO...

DIARY OF AMERICOMMANDO...

DIARY OF AMERICOMMANDO...

THE ADVENTURE OF  
"AMERICOMMANDO AND THE  
CINEMA SABOTEUR!"

FROM THE DIARY OF THE  
AMERICOMMANDO COMES A  
TALE OF THOSE WHO OPER-  
ATE IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT!  
THEIR MISSION...TO HALT  
THE OUTPOURINGS OF THE  
INSTRUMENTS WHICH SPELL  
THE DOOM OF THE AXIS  
POWERS! THIS IS A TALE  
OF THOSE ENEMIES WHO  
STRIKE FROM WITHIN...  
UNTIL THE AMERICOMMANDO  
AND HIS VALIANT AID, FATMAN,  
SEEK THEM OUT!



DIARY OF AMERICOMMUNDO...

Fatman and I are in Hollywood... They have just finished shooting a film of the rare Gunsight... which the Thomson is manufacturing for the Army! The film will show our gunners how to assemble these valuable weapons quickly! Foreign agents will attempt to obtain the film... but we are ready for them---

WEALTHY SAMUEL TILZER, HERO OF APEX FILMS, IS REFUSED ADMISSION TO A HOLLYWOOD SET!

YOU FOOL! I OWN THIS STUDIO! I CONTRIBUTED ITS FACILITIES AS A PATRIOTIC GESTURE!

SORRY, SIR... BUT ORDERS ARE TO ADMIT NO ONE UNLESS ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS!



WHY NOT? I CAN'T EVEN GET INTO MY OWN PROPERTY!

YOU'LL HAVE TO GET USED TO THOSE ORDERS! THE ARMY ISN'T TAKING ANY CHANCES!



HERE'S THOMSON! IT'S HIS GUNSIGHT AND HE'LL SEE TO IT THAT I'M ADMITTED!

HELLO THERE, MISTER TILZER! YOU SEEM EXCITED!!



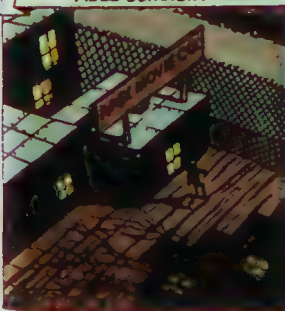
PHEW! HE WAS CERTAINLY BURNT UP... SEE YOU LATER, BOB!



SO LONG! I'M GONNA TAKE SOME SHADOW SHOTS WITH MY INFRARED CAMERA-- TAKES PICTURES IN THE DARK!



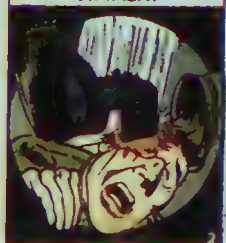
LATER THAT NIGHT... A LONE SOLDIER GUARDS THE BUILDING IN WHICH IS STORED THE VALUABLE GUNSIGHT FILM...



OUT OF THE SHADOWS EMERGES A MASKED, FURTIVE FIGURE...



THE FIGURE'S ARM LIFTS-- COMES CRASHING DOWN IN A COWARDLY ATTACK!



**THE MARAUDER ENTERS THE STUDIO THROUGH A WINDOW! AFTER A QUICK SEARCH...**

**I'VE GOT IT! THE GUNSHOT FILM IS MINE! NOW TO GET OUT--**

**MEANWHILE, BOB DALEY WANDERS ABOUT, ABSORBED IN HIS NEW CAMERA HOBBY...**

**JUST AS BOB CLICKS THE SHUTTER, A FIGURE APPEARS AT THE WINDOW...AND IS FRAMED THERE MOMENTARILY...**

**A CAMERAMAN! HE'S CAUGHT ME WITHOUT MY MASK ON...**

**BOY-O-BOY...WAIT TILL I ENTER MY SHOTS IN THE PHOTO CONTEST!**

**THE FOOL! I MUST GET THAT CAMERA!**

**BUT BOB HASN'T NOTICED THE CLOAKED FIGURE...**

**NOW TO GET SET FOR SOME REAL SHOTS!**

**AS BOB PASSES THE WINDOW...**

**SOMEONE'S COMING... I'VE NO TIME TO MOVE HIM!**

**SWIFTLY THE CLOAKED MARAUDER VANISHES INTO THE SHADOWS...AS TEX THOMPSON APPEARS...ATTRACTED BY BOB'S OUTCRY!**

**OOH**

**IT WAS BOB!!**

**TWO GRIM CRIME-FIGHTERS STAND  
READY TO TAKE OVER...THE  
AMERICOMMANDO AND FATMAN!**

THAT MAN WHO  
SLUGGED THE GUARD  
AND ATTACKED YOU  
MUST BE AFTER THE  
GUNSIGHT FILM!

BUT ALL I  
WAS DOING  
WAS TAKING  
PICTURES!



THAT'S IT!  
THAT'S WHY HE  
ATTACKED YOU!  
HE THOUGHT YOU  
GOT A PICTURE  
OF HIM...AND  
MAYBE YOU DO!



NO TIME FOR  
INTRODUCTIONS,  
MISTER! JUST YOU  
GET FATMAN TO  
A DARK ROOM!  
HE'S GOT AN  
IMPORTANT  
FILM TO DEVELOP!



LATER...

COME ON! WE'RE  
CHECKING THIS  
STORAGE ROOM!

COMING...



THE FILM'S GONE!  
HE GOT WHAT HE  
WAS AFTER!

GOSH! I WISH I  
COULD'VE SNAPPED  
A SHOT OF HIM!



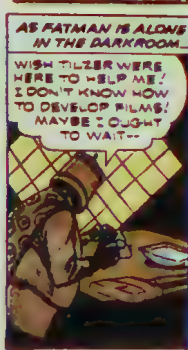
HERE COMES TILZER!  
HE'LL SHOW US WHERE  
TO DEVELOP YOUR  
FILM!

THE SENTRY IS  
KNOCKED COLD,  
AND SAY...WHO  
ARE YOU TWO?



AS FATMAN IS ALONE  
IN THE DARKROOM...

WISH TILZER WERE  
HERE TO HELP ME!  
I DON'T KNOW HOW  
TO DEVELOP FILMS!  
MAYBE I OUGHT  
TO WAIT--



NO...I'LL  
ONNNNN!!

POW!







GET UP! YOU  
AND I ARE TAKING  
A LITTLE WALK...  
AND YOU WON'T  
RETURN!

GO... TO  
LEAVE... A  
TRAIL... FOR  
THE  
AMER COMMANDO...



MOMENTS LATER...  
THEY'RE GONE!  
I TOLD FATMAN TO  
MEET HIM ---  
WHAT'S THAT?



THESE STRAWS...  
THEY'RE FROM  
FATMAN'S BROOM!  
LOOKS LIKE  
THEY'VE BEEN  
RIPPED OUT  
AND DROPPED  
IN A STEADY  
TRAIL...



THE TRAIL OF  
STRAWS LED HERE;  
FATMAN MUST  
BE INSIDE!

NOW SHOOTING  
"THE MAD  
MAOJIAN"  
KEEP  
OUT



ONCE I'VE DISPOSED  
OF YOU, I'LL GET  
YOUR PARTNER!

NOT GETTING  
PATRIOTIC, ARE  
YOU? THIS IS  
NO TIME TO  
WAVE THE  
FLAG!!

HERE  
HE IS,  
NOW!



GOOD! I'LL GIVE  
HIM A NICE  
RECEPTION!

LOOK  
OUT...  
THAT  
SWORD!



A TRICK  
SWORD!

NOW FOR THE  
\$64,000 QUESTION--  
WHERE'S THE  
GUNSLIGHT FILM?



SORRY--BUT THE ANSWER IS ON MY PROGRAM!

LOOK OUT! HE'S GOT A GUN!!

SP...UP...  
I'M SHOT...  
I'M DROWNED!

YOU'RE NOT, BUT HE'S JUST ABOUT WASHED UP!

LEMME AT AT HIM! JUST ONE SOCK--JUST ONE!

NOW I'LL REMOVE YOUR MASK, AND--

BOOM!

OMIGOSH! I HIT AMERI-COMMANDO!

I'D BETTER GET HIM BEFORE HE HIDES BEHIND THOSE MIRRORS!

COME AND GET ME--YOU FAT FOOL!

AND A HUNDRED FATMEN ARE IMAGED IN THE MIRRORS!

THERE YOU ARE...NOW I--

HA! HA! YOU'RE LOST...YOU WILL NEVER FIND ME!

OH, YEAH? WELL, HERE'S A FLASH IN THE PAN--

GOODBYE, FATMAN!

FATMAN...THIS WAY! FOLLOW THE SOUND OF MY VOICE!

HELP!!  
GET ME OUTA-HERE!

FOLLOWING  
THE  
SOUND OF  
AMERI-  
COMMANDO'S  
VOICE,  
BATMAN  
IS SOON  
FREE!

LET'S GO...  
AMONG THE  
MYSTERY...

LOOK...  
--HERE  
WE  
GOES!

THE SABOTEUR TAKES REFUGE IN A  
STORAGE ROOM CONTAINING VAULTS  
FOR RAW FILMS AND CHEMICALS...

THE SPOTLIGHT WILL ILLU-  
MINATE THE DOOR! THEY  
WILL NEVER FIND ME IN  
HERE... AND I'VE GOT THE  
GUNSHOT AND THE CAMERA!

HE'S A  
HOLD-ON.  
IF I EVER  
SAW ONE!

I WAS SURE HE  
WAS IN HERE! HE  
SEEMS TO KNOW  
EVERY INCH OF  
THE PLACE!

IT WAS ALL  
MY FAULT!

DON'T WORRY...  
THE LAST SCENE  
SAID OVER YET,  
BATMAN!

FREE...FREE AT  
LAST! THIS FILM  
WILL MAKE ME A  
FORTUNE! AND THE  
ONLY CLUE TO MY  
IDENTITY IS WITHIN  
THIS CAMERA!

BUT THE SPOTLIGHT HAS GENERATED  
TREMENDOUS HEAT ON THE VATS...AND  
SOON THE CHEMICALS BEGIN TO  
SMOLDER...

SUDDENLY THE HEATED  
CHEMICALS EXPLODE!

BOOM!



**FATMAN AND AMERICOMMANDO RACE TO THE WRECKAGE...**

WE GOT OUT JUST IN TIME!

LUCKY US!



**HOLY COW! OUR MYSTERY MAN WAS IN THE BUILDING ALL THE TIME!**



THE ARMY WILL TAKE OVER FROM HERE ON!

**WHEN THEY TAKE OFF THE HOOD...**

TILZER!

YES... LET MY STUDIO BELIEVE... SO COULD STEAL FILM... SELL IT TO AX'S AGENTS... I NEEDED MONEY... FATMAN SPOILED PLAN... WHEN HE TOOK PICTURE...

BUT...



THERE WASN'T ANY FILM IN THE CAMERA!

TILZER WOULD HAVE GOT CLEAN AWAY... IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR A PICTURE THAT WAS NEVER TAKEN!



SOLVING THAT CASE WAS A SNAP! WITH MY CAMERA!



**HELLO... BOYS AND GIRLS!**

THANKS FOR ALL YOUR SWELL LETTERS! SOME OF YOUR IDEAS AND SLOGANS ARE GREAT! KEEP SENDING THEM IN! I'LL PRINT AS MANY OF THEM AS I CAN!!



ADDRESS YOUR LETTERS TO:  
BERNARD BAILY,  
ACTION COMICS,  
480 LEXINGTON AVE.,  
NEW YORK CITY

HIS CLEVER IDEA WAS SENT IN BY STEPHEN FRANCIS OF TEXAS!



"FEED UNCLE SAM WITH TIN, RUBBER AND STUFF... BUY STAMPS AND BONDS, THESE MAKE HIM TOUGH!"

HARVEY VAN HIP WORTH OF CALIFORNIA HAS STARTED A CIVILIAN DEFENSE NEWSPAPER FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE C.I.O. IN HIS COMMUNITY. IN THE LIST'S THE HOURS AND SCHEDULES THAT THE AIR RAID WARDENS GO ON DUTY. SUBSCRIPTION TO THE PAPER \$5 TO SHOW YOU'VE PURCHASED AT LEAST FIVE STAMPS A WEEK. SO FAR EVERY ISSUE HAS BEEN A SELL-OUT!

...GOOD LUCK, HARVEY!

"YOUR LOOSE TONGUE, HIS BIG EARS... MAY DESTROY IN A DAY, WHAT WAS BUILT IN YEARS!"  
THANKS TO W. BERTMAN, CHICAGO

# A SIMPLE JOB

by Norman Goss

**S**LICK WARD was a very happy man. Things had been going smoothly for a long, long time now. And with this new set-up the cops would never be able to get him.

He sank back in his Pullman chair, smiled indulgently at the face reflected in the train window. His disguise, if you could call a new mustache a disguise, wouldn't fool the cops any if they were looking for him. But they weren't. They thought that Slick Ward was in South America because the big banks and the safes in the houses of the rich hadn't been cracked in some time now. Besides, even the stoolies had been fooled. They had convinced the cops that Slick, after the Mayor's clean-up order in the Big Town, had departed for Rio. There was no way of them knowing that Slick had returned the next week on a Clipper.

Slick smiled again. Ah, life sure was rosy since Charlie Ames had conceived the bright idea of knocking over small town banks! The insurance people were going crazy trying to figure out the robberies. Of course, a small town bank doesn't carry as much cash on hand as the Big Town places. But take a lot of them together, and you've got quite a haul.

Leaning back in his chair as the train clicked off the miles, Slick gave himself up to reflection. This would be the thirteenth job, he realized, but he wasn't superstitious. Not in the least bit. When a guy did things according to plan, he didn't even have to worry about percentage.

And Charlie Ames was some planner. Gosh, the idea was so simple, it was a wonder the cops hadn't tumbled long ago. All Charlie did was to go to a small town, pose as a salesman, and get a line on the local bank.

Then, he'd write daily letters to Slick, giving him the low-down. Charlie was a good reporter, and when he got through describing a town, Slick knew every inch of it. The spots for getaways, if they came; the time the watchman made his rounds; every detail of police routine, even the times the stores on the block closed and the times their owners went to bed—all these things were noted in Slick's head, when he finally arrived in town was a complete map of a town and its habits. All he had to do was make his way to the bank, follow Charlie's directions and make a getaway.

And it was always a simple getaway! Thinking now of the twelve times he had caught trains out of town after a bank robbery, Slick gave himself up to inward merriment. Why, the cops were beginning to think an organized gang was at work, instead of just two thugs.

Naturally, they never got Charlie because he always left town the day before, confident that Slick wouldn't slip up. His confidence had not yet been misplaced.

And tonight, after this job in Bloomington, a pretty little manufacturing town in the Housatonic Valley, Slick would leave on the late train, and then make his way to the Coast. There was plenty of money waiting to be split in a Coast bank. He and Charlie could live nicely for a long time.

Slick started as he heard the conductor's call. Had he called out Bloomington? Hastily, Slick looked out the window. Gosh, he had almost missed the place. There was the white church, with the gilded steeple that Charlie had said was the first thing you saw in town. The sun was just setting over it.

Hastily, Slick picked up his bag as the train slowed down. The station was on one end of Main Street. Slick's eyes looked the street over and admiration filled them as he thought again of Charlie's peculiar talent for accurate reporting. This sure would be a cinch. He squinted at a street-wide banner down the far end, by the police station, but was unable to make it out.

Ignoring the lone taxi parked by the station, Slick walked westward. He would have to hide out until darkness, and there was plenty of country in which to do so. The evening was warm and balmy, and Slick felt alive. This was so much better than doing a big job in the city. And safer.

\* \* \*

Screened from the highway by a patch of woods, Slick made his way along in the gathering darkness until he came to a secluded patch of grass alongside a brook. He stretched out to sleep. There was little chance of anyone finding him here. In a few hours, he'd knock over that crackerbox of a bank, with no watchman, and be on his way.

It was better not to do too much thinking right now. He'd almost missed the whistle stop, thinking. For a moment, he be-

gan to think maybe there was something to that thirteen jinx. Then he dismissed it with a snap of his fingers. Guys who knew their jobs didn't have to worry about poor breaks.

He left his travelling bag on the mossy bank, after opening it and strapping his burglar tools securely beneath his vest. His small automatic was in his right hand pocket. He looked at his watch. Eleven o'clock.

Refreshed, he walked back to the sleeping town. These burgs went to bed early. He skirted the main street, used the landmarks Charlie had sent him as a guide. This brought him out back of the bank.

There was an expression of disdain on his face as he spilled acid on the barred window guarding the back of the bank, and waited in the darkness for it to burn through. Charlie had said there was no alarm on the back window. But there was an electric eye on the front door, which would go off if anyone passed through.

\* \* \*

Contemptuously, Slick pushed the town's police force from his mind. Only yokels would think of a fancy thing like an electric eye for a front door and leave the back door unguarded. He tugged at the iron bars, now eaten through. The next moment, he had jimmied the window and was standing inside the bank, the ray of his flashlight carefully shielded from prying eyes outside.

Not that there'd be any, he assured himself. Charlie had said the town cop made his Main Street rounds every hour on the hour. So there was a good forty-five minutes to spare.

Slick played his light on the huge door of the vault. A cinch. He could crack it open in twenty minutes. He bent himself diligently to the task.

It was hot work and when, at last, the tumblers came loose under Slick's deftly-wielded instruments he was perspiring freely. He looked at his watch

before opening the door. A quarter to twelve. He'd just be able to make the last train out.

He tugged at the door. Then his body stiffened as a bell clanged noisily! Something had gone wrong! This was an alarm. The door was wired!

For an instant, the dim confines of the bank spun around. Slick was bewildered. Charlie would never make a mistake like this! He was too old a hand at the game not to have picked up information that the vault was wired. Why, he had even found out about the front door!

\* \* \*

Panic-stricken now, Slick headed for his only avenue of escape. But as he gathered up his precious tools, a gleam of light caught his eyes. Somebody with a flashlight was coming in the front door, and calling out to someone unseen to cover the back.

He was trapped!

There was no use trying to shoot it out. Slick threw up his hands. He was too easy a target, standing there in the circle of the cop's flashlight.

In the sudden light that went on, Slick blinked. The light gleamed off the star which showed beneath the intruder's opened coat, reflected on the word, "Sheriff."

Slick felt a slow, sinking feeling in his stomach. This man had no uniform, and Charlie had definitely said there was a uniformed cop, the only one, in town! A horrible thought assailed him. Had Charlie double-crossed him, intend to take the loot of twelve robberies for himself?

Bracelets clicked on Slick's wrist. The Sheriff was joined by a man whom Slick recognized as the station taxi driver. He had been covering the back window.

"Looks like you caught him red-handed, Sheriff," the cabbie panted. "This'll make quite a story for the paper this week."

"Sure will, Al," the Sheriff

said. "Pick up them tools and we'll take this hoodlum into the station house." He pushed the bewildered Slick roughly before him. The cab was outside. "Here," the Sheriff said. "You can ride in style."

The cabbie started the vehicle. The Sheriff's eyes were on Slick, cowering in the corner. The familiar Main Street passed before Slick's eyes. By all rights, he should now be on his way to the train. Instead, he realized miserably, he was on his way to jail. And Charlie was probably laughing to himself. He looked up angrily, conscious that the Sheriff had spoken to him. "What did you say, yokel?" he snarled. "I ain't admitting anything."

The Sheriff's eyes were puzzled. "I can't figure out why anyone would want to rob the bank here," he said, "when everybody knows the mills keep their money in the Blooming-ton bank."

Slick's mouth opened. "This . . . this . . . isn't Blooming-ton?" he gasped.

"No," the Sheriff said. "See?"

\* \* \*

Slick's knees were weak, and his eyes protruded as they followed the Sheriff's finger to the banner stretched across the street. It read:

WELCOME TO BLACKTON  
ONE OF THE TWIN TOWNS  
BLOOMINGTON AND  
BLACKTON.

He didn't hear the Sheriff say. "We folks of Blackton thought it would be a fancy idea to build two towns alike, building for building. Got us a lot of publicity, by golly!"

No, Slick didn't say anything. He could already hear the mocking laughter of the cops back in the Big Town when they heard Slick Ward had been punched because he didn't know where to get off!

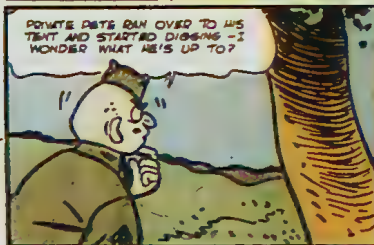
*The End*



# PRIVATE PETE



PRIVATE PETE RAN OVER TO HIS TENT AND STARTED DIGGING - I WONDER WHAT HE'S UP TO?



I NEVER THOUGHT OF THOSE THINGS.

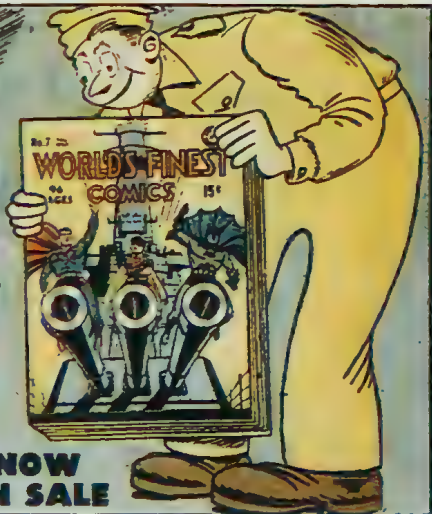


I'VE BEEN READING ABOUT AIR RAIDS - SO I'M BUILDING MYSELF AN AIR RAID SHELTER!



**BIGGEST AND BEST!**

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**NOW ON SALE**

# CONGO BILL

SOME PEOPLE ARE HAPPIEST WHEN THEY ARE ACTING... AND A GOOD ACTOR IS A RESPECTED MEMBER OF AN HONORABLE PROFESSION. BUT... ODDLY ENOUGH... CONGO BILL, WHO'D NEVER BEEN ON A STAGE IN HIS LIFE, FOUND THAT HE HAD BEEN CHOSEN TO RING DOWN THE CURTAIN ON A MAN WHO TIED OUT FOR A ROLE WHICH NEVER HAD BEEN WRITTEN! THIS IS THE STRANGE SAGA OF "THE MAN WHO PLAYED KING"



GEE, SNAKE-EYES, YOU LIVE IN A PENTHOUSE ON TOP OF THE WORLD... AN' YET THIS NEWS-PAPER CALLS YOU KING OF THE UNDERWORLD!

KING, EH? NOT BAD... NOT BAD!



OH-OH! IT SAYS HERE THEY'RE GONNA P'N A RAP ON YOU FOR EVADIN' INCOME TAXES!

PHOOEY! MY MOUTHPIECE CAN TAKE CARE OF ANY JUDGE AND JURY!



BUT... AFTER A SPEEDY TRAIL...

LOOKA THE IRON BRACELETS THEY GAVE ME! CHAINS! BELIEVE ME, BUDDY, I WON'T BE WEARIN' THEM LONG!



SNAKE-EYES IS RIGHT! A FEW DAYS LATER "PSYCHOLOGISTS" ARRIVE TO EXAMINE HIM. THEY OPEN THEIR BRIEF-CASES AND... CHATTERING DEATH COMES TO THE WARDEN AND PRISON GUARDS!



C'MON, SNAKE-EYES, THE CAR'S OUTS DE!

THIS TOWN'S TOO HOT FOR YA, SNAKE-EYES! HERE'S A TICKET ON A BOAT OUT OF THIS COUNTRY!

AN' THIS PACKAGE IS ENOUGH TO START YA RIGHT WHEREVER YA LAND!



THIRTY MINUTES LATER... ON A SHIP HEADED FOR THE TROPICS...



NICE OF THE MOB NOT TO HOLD OUT MY SHARE OF THE DOUGH... ULP. WHAT'S THIS??

WELL, WELL! THEY WEREN'T SO FAR WRONG AT THAT! THIS TYPEWRITER WILL MAKE ME ME KIND OF THE HEAD ANY PLACE!



WEEKS LATER... AT A SMALL TRADING POST IN THE STEAMING CONGO...

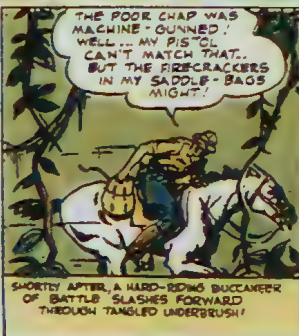


B-SWANA C-CONGO BILL...

WHA... SAY! WHO SHOT YOU??



WHITE MAN... HAS GUN... SHOOT MANY TIMES AT ONCE... CALLS M-SELF KNO... MAKES EVERYONE SNAVES... AND... AND DO GOOD FOR HIM... REFUSE... ANNNNN!

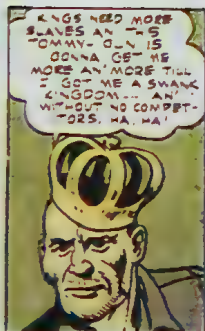


THE POOR CHAP WAS MACHINE-GUNNED! WELL... MY PISTOL CAN'T MATCH THAT.. BUT THE FIRECRACKERS IN MY SADDLE-BAGS MIGHT!

FIRE CRACKERS AGAINST A MACHINE-GUN? YOU'VE GOT A TOUGH ASSIGNMENT, CONGO BILL, A REALLY TOUGH ASSIGNMENT!

SHORTLY AFTER, A HARD-RIDING BUCCANEER OF BATTLE SLASHES FORWARD THROUGH TANGLED UNDERBRUSH!





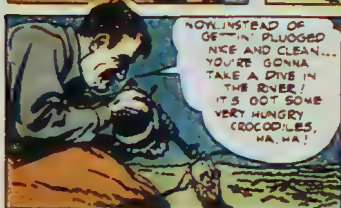
QUICKLY SCOOPING UP THE RE-  
VOLVER CONGO BILL ADVANCES  
TOWARDS SNAKE-EYES!



BUT... AS CONGO BILL BENDS  
OVER HIS FALLEN OPPONENT...



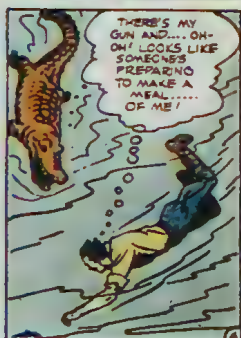
TUMBLING THROUGH AIR... A  
DESPERATELY CLUTCHING  
HAND GRASPS A JUTTING  
LIMB... AND IRON-HARD  
MUSCLES HOLD A SWAYING  
CONGO BILL IN MID-AIR!



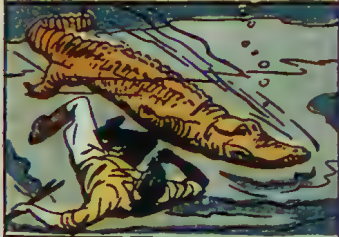
A TALON-  
LIKE  
FINGER  
HOOKS A  
SENSITIVE  
TRIGGER...  
AND COLD  
STEEL  
SLICES  
THROUGH  
SPLINTERED  
WOOD!



DOWN PLUMMETS  
CONGO BILL...  
DOWN TOWARDS  
SLUGGISH WATERS  
WHICH HARBOR  
SLITHERING, SABER-  
TOOTHED PERIL...



WITH EXPRESS TRAIN SPEED, THE SAURIAN SPEEDS FORWARD — ITS UGLY SNOUT GAPES WIDE —



ONCE AGAIN... PIO-LIKE EYES GLEAMING WITH ENDS — THE HUNGRY HORROR LAUNCHES ITSELF FORWARD.



AND THEN—



CONGO BILL WHISTLES SOFTLY... AND DRUMMING MOOVES PLUNGE FROM THE CONCEALING DARKNESS!



CLIMBING UPWARDS TOWARDS 'SNAKE-EYES' SHACK, CONGO BILL COMPLETES HIS PLAN WITH THE SILENT STEALTH OF A SHADOW.





MEANWHILE--INSIDE HIS SHACK...A MERRY MONARCH SITS UPON HIS THRONE!



BOYBOY! WHAT A SET-UP AND SNACK-EYES N GOLDEN ARMOR...SITS UPON HIS THRONE. YEAH! AND CONGO BILL IS CROCODILE-BAIT! HAW!

THAT VERY MOMENT--OUTS DE...



WH-WHAT'S THAT? SOUNDS LIKE SOMEONE TAKIN' POT-SHOTS AT ME!



C'MON OUT BEFORE I PLUG... ULP! I...I'M SURROUNDED!



NOT SURROUNDED, CHUMP, BUT OUTWITTED!

NO! YOU'RE DEAD! YOU GOTTA BE DEAD... ARROOOH!!

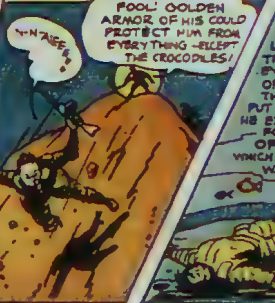
LOCKED IN DESPERATE STRUGGLE...SAVAGELY FIGHTING TOOTH AND NAIL...WRESTLING FIGURES ROLL OVER THE PEBBLED GROUND TOWARDS THE YAWNING DEPTHS BELOW!



YOU'RE BEATEN, M-S'ER KING!

ZAT SO? I'M...I'M...STILL GONNA BLAST YA APART!

SUDDENLY...A FATAL MISTAKE...AND...

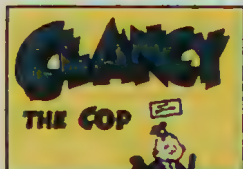


W-WHAT?

FOOL! GOLDEN ARMOR OF HIS COULD PROTECT HIM FROM EVERYTHING--EXCEPT THE CROCODILES!

THE CARDS ARE STACKED AGAINST LAWBREAKERS TRUE... SNAKE-EYES GOT RID OF THE CHAINS THAT THE LAW PUT ON HIM... BUT HE EXCHANGED THEM FOR CHAINS OF GOLD WHICH BROUGHT A WATERY DOOM!!

# JUST FOR FUN



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Don't Miss This NEW BOOK "The Age of Chemistry"

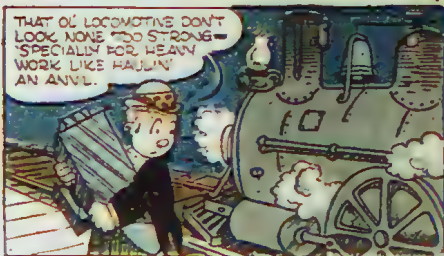
New Chemical Book Co. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 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2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023,

# CAREFUL HESTER

AT LAST! THE RAILROAD STATION! I'LL LOCATE A BAGGAGE CAR AND GET THIS KEFTY MUNK OF PRIORITIES OFFA MY HANDS.



THAT OL' LOCOMOTIVE DON'T LOOK NONE TOO STRONG—SPECIALLY FOR HEAVY WORK LIKE HAULIN' AN ANVIL.



CAN I RIDE IN HERE WITH THIS BIT OF HARDWARE?

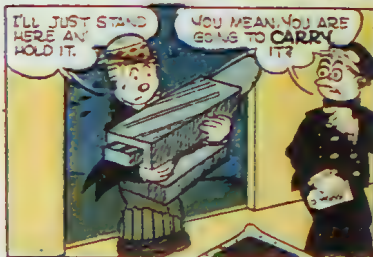


SURE—LAH IT IN THE CORNER.

69713

I'LL JUST STAND HERE AND HOLD IT.

YOU MEAN YOU ARE GOING TO CARRY IT?



YEH—I'LL STICK WITH IT—

DON'T BE DULL—PUT IT ON THE FLOOR.



NAAW, SIR—I'M GONNA CARRY THIS BABY ALL TH' WAY TO DRNDL JUNCTION.

BUT WHY? THAT THING MUST WEIGH A TON!



THAT'S WHY I'M HOLDING IT. SEE—?

—THAT LOCOMOTIVE'S GOT ENOUGH TO PULL NOW!





# ZATARA

# THE MASTER MAGICIAN

by Joseph Sulman

THE ARMED SHERIFF THOUGHT HE  
HAD A BRAND NEW WAY OF GETTING  
CRIMINALS TO MEND THEIR WAY  
BY BEATING THEM WITH KINDNESS.  
WHAT HAPPENS WHEN JARAR  
MASTER MAGICIAN MEETS A SHERIFF  
TO BE KIND TO DUMB CROOKS MAKES  
FOR A WORTHY ADVENTURE IN THE CASE OF  
"CROOKS - HANDLE  
WITH CARE!"

Got ham College



THE ARMBURSTER WEALTHY YOUNG  
BLUEBLOOD SEEKS HIS MASTER'S  
DEGREE AT GOTHAM COLLEGE...

EACH OF YOU IN ORDER TO GRADUATE  
MUST WRITE AN ORIGINAL THESIS.

I SHALL NOW  
ASSIGN THE  
TOPICS...

PLEASE S.A. + S.M.Y.  
THEORY THAT THE CRIMINAL  
MIND WILL RESPOND TO  
KINDNESS. MAY I WRITE  
ABOUT THAT  
SUBJECT SLP? IN

TE KNOWS  
AND TOMORROW  
INTELLIGENCE  
A GOOD  
THING? YES  
AMBROUSTE?

TO THE TOUGHEST PLACE IN TOWN  
JOHN'S YOUNG ARCHIE

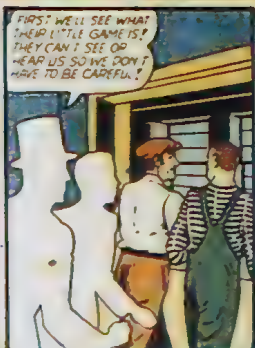
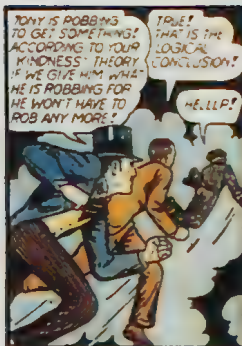
1. MUST BE 100%  
ATMOSPHERE... SH...  
-ER BEND AN  
E. BOW IN  
JACKIE S. JON... 5













**TOUGH TONY FINDS THAT A LIFE OF LUXURY ISN'T ALL IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE....**

"THIS WAY IF YOU PLEASE SIR. YOU ARE ENTERTAINING TONIGHT?"

"ENTERTAINING HUM? SHOWIN' SOME FOLKS A BANG-UP GOOD TIME? SWELL! LEAD ME TO IT!"



**A FORMAL DINNER PRESENTS ITS DIFFICULTIES...**

"WHICH FORK DO I USE? AND WHICH SPOON? OR DO I EAT THIS WITH A KNIFE?"



**IS HIS FACE RED?!**

"THIS FORK IS THE PROPER ONE SIR!"

"OH...ER. YEAH... TO BE SURE!"



**AND LATER... \*O.O.O\***

"YOU MUST DRESS FOR THE DANCE SIR. FORMAL WEAR YOU KNOW. THAT 'LUXEDO' IS JUST FOR DINNER!"

"BUT I ALREADY GOT DRESSED THREE TIMES SINCE LUNCH!"



**TOUGH TONY DECIDES THIS SORT OF LIFE ISN'T FOR HIM!**

"I QUIT! I NEVER WANT NO MORE OF THIS KIND OF LIVING ANY MORE! NOT FOR ME! NO, SIR!"



"HUM? IT WAS ONLY A DREAM OR SOMETHIN'!"

"NOT AT ALL. YOU WERE DISSATISFIED SO I TOOK IT AWAY FROM YOU!"

"HOW DID YOU LIKE IT?"



"TERRIBLE! YOU MADE ME REALIZE HOW SILLY IT WAS TO BE A CROOK AND STEAL JUST FOR THAT STUFF! NOW... WHAT AM I GONNA DO WITH MYSELF?"

"OH OH!"







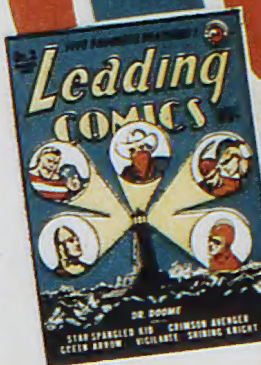








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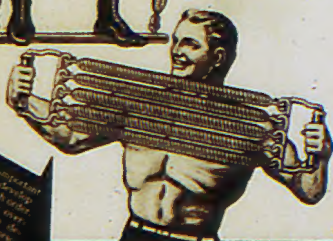
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